

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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An Independent Christian Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness and Formalism.

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PRAYER

By the late Evangelist Billy Sunday, died 1935

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever.... Heb. 13:8.

We live in a very practical age. People do things, not because the law compels them, but because they get something for their efforts.

The motto of today seems to be: Where do I come in on this? What do I get out of it?

We are willing to invest our money if we get good returns. That's right. We gladly try the doctor's treatment. We are a nation of tasters. Is the game worth the candle?

We do not have to comprehend the process in order to enjoy its results. I do not understand electricity, but I turn the switch and the room is flooded with light.

I do not understand the mechanism of the telephone, but I call the number and I get my friends on the wire.

I do not understand the process of digestion, but I eat.

I do not understand the anatomy of the body, but I take the doctor's medicine.

A woman once wrote a letter in which she said, "Before I got your medicine, I was too weak to spank my baby. After taking six bottles, I am strong enough to lick my husband."

I pray, because of its proved helpfulness, but I cannot understand its mysteries.

If I never used an elevator until I understood how it worked, I would stay downstairs all my life.

If I never used an automobile until I understood its mechanism, I would have to walk.

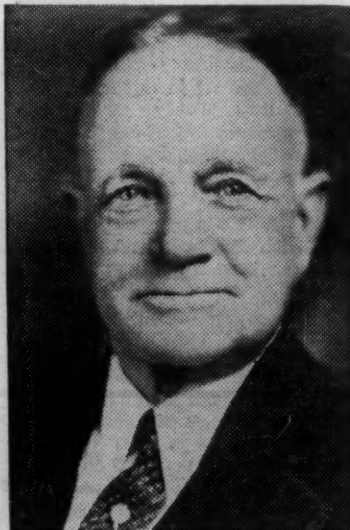
If I never looked at my watch until I could make one, I would never know the time of day.

So if I never prayed until I understood all its mysteries, I would be a stranger to God all my days. Nobody knows what takes place when we drop a lump of sugar in the coffee, whether the change is mechanical or chemical. All we know is that the sugar sweetens the coffee, and that's all we need to know.

There has never been a great moral or spiritual awakening in history that did not root itself in prayer. At Pentecost, where the Holy Spirit came down and where the church was born, they held a ten-day prayer meeting.

A prominent man told me he had visited scores of churches; yet he could not gather from what was preached whether the preacher was a follower of Confucius, Mohammed, Zoroaster, or Christ.

No wonder crime is rampant when they make the individual opinion, instead of the Bible, the



Billy Sunday

seat of authority. Rebellion is bound to follow.

No wonder that under this tidal wave of materialism, our churches have lost 300,000 members. They are trying to divert attention from their failure by attacking evangelism—the one force and power that has kept the spiritual flame alive.

Prayer is beginning to be looked upon as old-fashioned. People are not praying today. We are facing one of the greatest crises in our history. The one thing that will save our nation is a sweeping revival of religion.

Blackstone said that in his day you could not tell from what the preachers said whether they were heathen or Christian. Yet out of all this darkness came the revival under Wesley and Whitefield, which gave birth to the Methodist church, with nine million adherents.

God Answers Prayer

Phillips Brooks said that prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, but a laying hold of His willingness.

Abraham prayed for a son, and

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God Stayed the Surgeon's Knife

By Rev. Ralph G. McCoy
Missionary to Costa Rica

A marvelous thing happened at Ochsner Foundation Hospital in New Orleans on Friday, March 10, when I was rolled on a stretcher into the surgery room on the second floor of the Foundation Hospital.

I had received instructions to be ready for anything and had signed all necessary papers okaying the removal of any part, and as much of my lower bowel and colon as deemed necessary by the surgeons, to remove an infectious disease diagnosed as "Krohn's disease," or "regional ileitis," that multiple x-rays showed had been scattering over a period of four months' illness, while dysentery and a chronic diarrhea had pulled my weight down to 112 pounds and had left my nervous system shattered.

I signed the required papers on Thursday, March 9, started receiving extra blood by transfusion and all medical preparation for most delicate major surgery. And in the afternoon of that same day three pastors from Fort Worth and Dallas, Rev. Johnnie Ramsey, Rev. Oscar Simmons and Rev. Roy Wright arrived to stand by. Then on Friday morning at 5:00 a.m. Rev. Ross Fite and Rev. Grover Bishop arrived from the State of Arkansas. Rev. Dewie Williams and members of Bridge-dale Baptist Church of New Orleans were also present to stand by.

What a time of prayer and supplication to God transpired during that night! My room was filled with praying Christians until long past the deadline for visitors. The floor supervisor came in to break it up before 10:00 p.m. But I raised up from my bed to advise her not to interfere because "this is not a party, but a prayer meeting." She obligingly left us alone.

At 8:00 a.m. on Friday I was rolled into surgery and a ten-inch incision was made, giving room to

The book of Esther is indeed a strange part of divine inspiration. The name of God is not found once in the book, but it literally sobs with a love and tenderness and compassion which is most rare. Though the name of God is not found once in the book, the love of God, the judgment of God and God's providential dealing is woven throughout this memorable book. The divine wisdom, the sublime lessons, the heavenly language which are found only in the writings inspired by the Holy Spirit, are certainly in great evidence here.

This is a moving story. One Jewish maiden, in the providence of God, is promoted to a place of tremendous influence. She changes the course of history for one hundred and twenty-seven provinces. She has more power than a heathen king or his wicked prime minister. Her story and her compassion is one of the greatest pieces of literature of all time. Oh that the



Rev. Ralph McCoy

pull out the infected intestine for operation. But at 5:00 p.m. when consciousness had returned, Dr. Alton Ochsner and two associate surgeons arrived at the recovery room to announce, "Good news, Preacher! We did not remove your bowel, only your appendix and a 'lymph node' for further tests."

Those first words alarmed me! I have often stood by patients with cancer who also had nothing removed because of the spread of the disease beyond the reach of surgeons. The thought flashed through my mind! And I wondered if I might be the next victim of the deadly "octopus." But my question was answered in a few more words.

The surgeon said, "Preacher, we found the scars and path of the disease in your bowel. But we did not remove it because it seems that at the last moment the disease has been arrested, and with the healing that we saw we did not believe it necessary to remove any

(Continued on page 4)

How to Win Your Unsaved Loved Ones to Christ

By Dr. Tom Malone, Pastor
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"How can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?"—Esther 8:6.

blessed Holy Spirit teach us the greatly needed lesson of this woman's character and love.

Out of a heart of burden and anguish she cried, "How can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?" Her heart-breaking problem is explained in Esther 3:13. Through the evil maneuvering of wicked Haman, a decree had been sent forth throughout all the kingdom "to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish all Jews, both young and old, little children and women..." Her people had been put under the sentence of death! The awful truth had gripped her heart, had burdened her soul and had moved her to desperate action!

"How can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?"

She could not endure to see them die, to be destroyed and cut off from the land of the living. She must at all cost see the sentence of death removed! Our loved ones, the lost sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters are under a divine sentence of death! Hear the Word of God on this subject.

"The soul that sinneth, it shall die"—Ezekiel 18:20.

"The wages of sin is death"—Romans 6:23.

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned"—Romans 5:12.

Something must be done. We must, like Esther, get desperate and determined. We must take action. The saddest hour a Christian shall ever know will be that tragic hour when you bury one of your lost loved ones and the realization grips your heart that they have gone to Hell forever. May God spare you from that heart-break.

Esther could have said, "What can I do? I am only one young woman in the midst of one hundred and twenty-seven provinces." She could have let her people go to Hell but she didn't. As is often said: One plus God is a majority. Consider Moses, plus God! Gideon, plus God! Andrew, plus God! You, plus God! She did not allow fear, timidity or lack of training to stifle her inward urge to do something about the terrible plight of her people.

"How can I endure to see the destruction of my people?"

There are three tremendous thoughts which burden my soul when I meditate upon this text. The condition of our lost loved ones; the concern we should experience in our hearts; and the commitment we should make in order to keep them out of Hell.

I. The Condition of Our Lost Loved Ones

We will never do much about them until we are gripped with the awful reality of their condition. We must not let our love for them, or their love for us, or their kindness to us obscure our spiritual vision in this matter. We must see them as they are—

lost, undone, unclean and Hell-bound. There seems to be at least ten different descriptions of this dangerous condition set forth in the New Testament.

1. They are lost

Hear the Word of God on this tragic word, "Lost." "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost"—Luke 19:10. "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost"—II Cor. 4:3.

Oh, how could the blessed Holy Spirit ever find a sadder word than this? Perhaps the saddest word in all the human language is the word, "Lost." Lost to God, lost to Heaven, lost to Jesus, lost to the church, lost to service, lost to family! If God would help the Christians of this day to realize the depth of agony and tears and tragedy wrapped up in that word, we would have the



Dr. Tom Malone

greatest revival the church has ever known.

When I was a young preacher boy in college years ago I heard a most heart-searching story. It is said that a young preacher was walking one afternoon in the mountains of Tennessee and came to a lowly little mountain home. He heard the frantic screams of a tormented soul coming from within. He pushed open the door and stepped inside. A dying, aged woman lay upon a filthy bed in a darkened room. She was crying at the top of her voice, "Lost! Lost! Lost!" It so frightened the young preacher that he ran from the little mountain shack, wondering what he should do.

After a while he went back and pushed open the door and said to the dying woman, "If you are lost, there is hope for you, for Jesus came to seek and to save that which is lost." In a few moments he had led the aged woman to Christ.

Yes, loved ones are lost, neighbors are lost, young people are lost, aged people are lost. We must witness, pray and weep over them until they are won. We must get desperate. It may be now or never for them.

2. They are perishing!

God's Holy Word makes this ever so plain.

"For God so loved the world," (Continued on page 6)



The Whole Family's Christian Vacation Together—Uplifting, Joyous, Inexpensive

Where? At the Sword Family Conference August 21-27, at the Bill Rice Ranch, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. We want to make it possible for whole families to have a heart-warming, spiritual experience, a happy vacation to meet great Christian leaders and learn to win souls, all in one, happy inexpensive, blessed week. There will be many features.

First, every day, from 9:30 to 10:30, there will be separate meetings for groups. The women will meet every morning to be led and taught by Mrs. Jessie Rice Sandberg, author of the column, "From My Kitchen Window" in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. This Christian young wife and mother, a trained artist, beautiful musician, and gifted author, will bring tremendous blessings to wives and mothers. Young people will meet under the leadership of Evangelist and Mrs. Walt Handford. Walt and Libby will do a tremendous work; a happy time. The children will meet with "Aunt Mary," Mrs. Mary Lloyds Rice Himes who writes "Kids Korner" in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Bible stories, flannelgraph, making things, learning songs and choruses—the children will be delighted and have a glorious week. The men will meet with this editor.

And everybody will gather together at 10:45 a.m., at 6:45 p.m., and at 8:00 p.m. for messages by Dr. Lee Roberson, Dr. Bill Rice, Dr. John R. Rice, Evangelist Walt Handford.

The music will be out of this world, with most of the Rice sisters there, with sweet moving duets, happy quartets, and a fine choir, lots of new and wonderful gospel songs. Music under the direction of the "Voice of Revival" radio choir director, Don Sandberg.

The expenses will be moderate, starting with \$2.50 per day or \$14 per week, both room and board, in the cabins, with toilet and bath nearby. There will be an extra charge of \$2.00 a day for the Honeymoon Hotel rooms with semi-private bath (accommodates two) or \$4.00 a day for the large motel rooms with private bath (accommodates four), with reduced rates for children. And the food is not only abundant but delightful. Recreation will be directed by Evangelist Charles Himes.

There will be softball games, ping-pong, shuffleboard, fishing in the lake, horseback riding, and cook-out breakfasts. The horseback rides cost a moderate price; nearly everything else is free.

For reservations tell us what place you want, send \$1.00 per person registration fee, say exactly when you will arrive, when you will leave. Address Dr. Bill Rice, Bill Rice Ranch, Franklin Road, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Remember the date for the whole family conference, August 21-27.

City-Wide Revival Campaigns? Great Area-Wide Conference on Revival and Soul Winning? Plan Early and Big!

A half dozen pastors in Phoenix, Arizona, have already committed themselves, inviting me to a great tent campaign in that city. In a few days they will send me another list of pastors and churches definitely committed to that campaign.

I am already scheduled now to eight major conferences on revival and soul winning in the months ahead, and in these conferences Dr. Bob Jones, Sr., Dr. Lee Roberson, Dr. Jack Hyles, Dr. Tom Malone, Dr. Bill Rice, and others have variously agreed to help. In each case, a group of pastors and churches has united in plans for a great stirring of revival fires, teaching on soul winning, learning how to put on a visitation and Sunday School enlargement campaign, how to have revival, how to have the power of the Holy Spirit in personal soul winning.

I am sorry that many who asked me too late I must turn down. Others who make small plans, I feel I cannot take the time for. Where a number of pastors and churches will unite, secure the solid support of pastors and churches so that we can expect to make a tremendous impact for revival and soul winning on the spiritual lives of preachers for a hundred miles around. I would like to plan for such conferences, Sword of the Lord Conferences on Revival and Soul Winning, and I will bring some of the best soul winners in America with me, but we must know long enough ahead of time to plan for them and the plans must be big enough to honor God and give God a chance to work.

Likewise, for revival invitations, I am sorry to turn down many, many invitations. So if you plan a revival, can you plan a city-wide or area-wide campaign? Can you enlist a number of pastors and churches, and go into a full-scale plan that will give God a chance to save hundreds of souls? If such earnest plans are made, I will be glad to send an advance man to help organize and enlist and plan with pastors and help enlist others. But plan together and do it far enough ahead that great things can be done for God.

INCIDENTS

Ill and Illustrations

By Evangelist Robert L. Sumner
Contributing Editor

Henry's Bad Bargain

A little over a century ago a prospector named Henry Comstock discovered a silver deposit in Virginia City, Nevada. Not long after his discovery, someone offered him \$11,000 for his claim and he sold it. However, the Comstock lode turned out to contain the greatest silver deposit ever discovered and some \$340,000,000 in revenue was gained by its new owners in the following 30 years. Henry sold out too soon for too little.

In like manner, no matter what an individual gains living for time, if he neglects eternity, he has made a bad bargain. If you gain billions of dollars in time, yet die without Christ, your riches will be represented by the \$11,000 in contrast with the \$340,000,000 of eternity. Where is your emphasis? Are you living for time or for eternity?

"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matt. 16:26).

FIGHTERS WANTED: It was Dante who said, seven centuries ago, "The hottest places in Hell are reserved for those, who, in a period of moral crisis, retain their neutrality."

The Academy Awards

Some months ago, as soon as the academy awards were presented, we expressed our views in this column about the sordid spectacle to which Hollywood has stooped in portraying vice, vulgarity and the like. Now, as evidence that our opinion does not stand alone, let me quote a couple of other conclusions made the day after the awards were made.

Columnist Terrence O'Flaherty, writing in *The San Francisco Chronicle*, said: "As the movies get dirtier, the Oscar telecast gets more antiseptic. Monday's smoothly produced TV show was the best example of this in recent years."

"The 2,300 craftsmen of the Motion Picture Academy cast their votes for prostitution and adultery. For a while, it wasn't clear who would get first place—the prostitutes or the adulterers—but the ladies of the evening won out, even though they seldom do in real life."

"Despite the bouffant skirts and the diamonds and the Vogue look, the whole thing made Hollywood look dirty. Perhaps they ought to accompany each Oscar with a bottle of 'Mr. Clean,' whom Oscar closely resembles."

"The only decent pictures nominated for the major acting awards, 'The Sundowners' and 'Sunrise at Campobello,' were rejected by the members of the academy who annually vote for the Oscar, the best award of the motion picture industry. Instead, it went to 'The Apartment,' a shoddy, adulterous little yarn that was glossed over with a slick production."

"If the members of the movie industry really consider this their most distinguished effort of the year, then they're sicker than I suspected and we're all in trouble."

Columnist Judd Arnett, writing in *The Detroit Free Press*, commented: "... I can remember ... the days when we went to the movies anticipating either a little good, clean fun or else a sort of drama in which virtue ultimately triumphed and honesty won its just award. How corrupt was my valley!"

"For now it is obvious that this was not the ultimate goal, the apex of perfection, for the movie industry ... How could we have been so pedestrian as to suspect that purity would always prevail, that good guys would continue to finish first, that chastity would remain a marketable product? How wrong we were, how pathetically naive!"

"This year, for example, the

film industry's highest awards went to Miss Taylor for the portrayal of a female tramp; to Shirley Jones for breathing new adrenalin into the tired old story of a fallen angel; to Burt Lancaster for the dash and verve of his performance as a preacher sloshing with hypocrisy and evil designs.

"Even the 'song of the year' told of the determination of a call-girl to preserve Sundays for herself. Hurrah for the ultimate in unionism."

"Realism ... that's the ticket these days. Give it to 'em straight. Emote, baby! Down with the prudish mysteries of the birds and the bees. Put it—sex is 'it,' as Clara Bow decided a long time ago—on the line."

"End simpering doubt. Show ourselves before the world as we really are—or at least as Hollywood thinks we are ..."

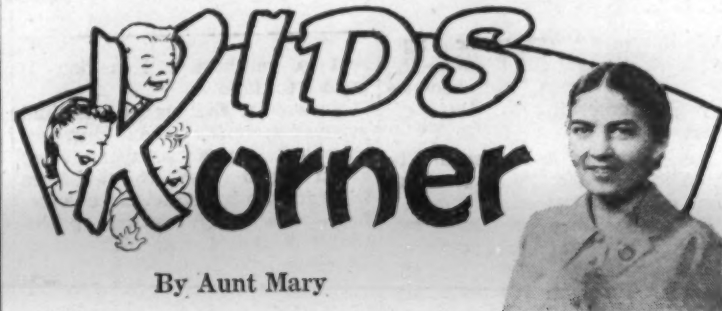
(Note: On a recent TV round-

up of public opinion abroad, four out of five of those interviewed said that they had gained at least part of their impressions of the United States from attending the movies. Oh goody!)

"Oh, well ... Another year, another presentation of 'Oscars'—and this year more than ever full proof that 'pure art' has survived censorship and has over-powered all movements toward decadent decency."

"What was it Bob Hope said as the program left the air? 'Something to the effect that 'we have brought all of this to you for one splendid reason—greed!' Sin is better than ever—at least at the movies!"

Pray for Evangelist Sumner's meetings:
Thru July 23:
Barnsboro Baptist Church
Clayton, New Jersey
July 25-August 6:
Enslar Baptist Church
Sand Lake, Michigan
August 8-20:
Skeels Baptist Church
Gladwin, Michigan



By Aunt Mary

Did you learn something special or unusual in Daily Vacation Bible School this year? I hope you learned more about the Bible. But I hope you learned something that will help in your own personal daily life, too.

We expect children to learn in such a school, but every teacher, learns as she teaches, too. I learned as I studied for my teaching this year. Some things I learned as I prepared to teach; others I learned from the children, and some from other teachers I worked with.

One day last week I told the story of the Christian, Philemon, whose slave, Onesimus, had stolen his money and run away. After Onesimus ran away, he met Paul and was saved, and then returned to his master. The next day in reviewing the story I somehow mixed the names and called Onesimus "Onesiphorus." Wasn't that a silly mistake? I was, of course, glad when someone corrected the mistake. The children first learned from me, then corrected me when I made a mistake.

Today I learned some things about Peter and John, disciples of the Lord Jesus, that I had not known before. Both were fishermen, you remember, and both apparently loved Jesus a great deal. But Peter was the one who sometimes spoke before he thought, who was hot-tempered and sometimes foolish. You remember he said, "Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee." But the very next day, because a servant girl and others accused him, he swore he never even knew Jesus.

I had not realized that John had some of the same fiery temper. But Jesus called him one of the "sons of thunder." As the years went by, John learned to control his temper and became known as "the disciple whom Jesus loved." He must have lost some of the "thunder" as he became more dear to the Lord Himself.

After Jesus' death, you remember, Peter was discouraged. He was ready to go back to fishing. But when Jesus rose from the grave and appeared to Peter and the others, Peter was ready to start preaching again.

After the Holy Spirit came to help him, Peter was the one who preached on the day of Pentecost when 3,000 souls were saved in one day. The Bible doesn't tell us the end of the story, but the tradition is that Peter did die for Jesus as he said he would.

But what happened to John, the other "son of thunder"? The years went by, and when Jesus was dying, it was to John, "the disciple whom Jesus loved," that he committed the care of His mother, Mary. Perhaps if Jesus had a "best friend," John was he.

And though John showed for years that he would be willing to die for Jesus, he finally died of old age on the Isle of Patmos,

far away from those he loved. It was there, you remember, that God told him the things that are written in the book of Revelation, and which he wrote down for us, John, the "son of thunder," suffered much for Jesus, but finally died quietly on that island.

Today I almost cried as I talked to the children about the great joy these two must have felt when they met Jesus in Heaven. I think Peter, in his great pain, may have wanted to die more quickly because he knew that soon he would see Jesus. Peter's going to Heaven must have been the more wonderful because he died for Jesus.

But John, the beloved disciple, must have had the same joyful entrance into Heaven. He had lived for Jesus many long years, had written five of the books in the New Testament under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and had spent his last years far away from the friends he loved, for Jesus' sake. I am sure Jesus met John, as He did Peter, with a kiss and, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

I know I am going to Heaven, But I too want that special greeting of the Lord, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." Will you, with me, ask God to help us to live as we ought, to serve Jesus well for the special reward of that greeting?

FM listeners in the Tacoma, Washington Area: Tune in the VOICE OF REVIVAL with Dr. Rice and the Rice sisters on KLAY-FM at 2:00 pm each Sunday. 106.3 mc.

God Is Near

Thou art near, O Lord; and all thy commandments are truth.—Psalm 119:151

Two friends agree never to go farther apart than they can communicate with one another by telegraph. One of them has crossed the Atlantic, and resides in the United States, or in the Far West, but still he has only to go to the office, where a wire can be sent and a message will flash to his friend in England, and tell him his needs.

This is just the compact God has made with His people; they shall never go where there is not a telegraphic communication between them and Himself. You may be out at sea, or in Australia, but the communication of prayer is always open between your soul and God, and if you were commanded to ride on the wings of the morning to the uttermost parts of the sea, or if for a while you had to make your bed in the abyss, if you were His child, still would you be able to reach His heart.

—Charles H. Spurgeon,



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From my KITCHEN WINDOW



By Jessie Rice Sandberg

Pots and Pans

Some have said that you can tell the quality of a cook by looking at her pots and pans. I'm not too certain what conditions a judge would look for—whether quantity of cookware, quality, cleanliness or what-have-you. An expert cookie-maker I know says that cookie sheets have to be kept to a shining polish if you want to make sure your cookies always come out just right. On the other hand, some kitchen utensils do better, I am told, if they are kept away from water. For instance, some people insist that fried eggs, to be cooked to perfection, ought to be fried in a big, black cast-iron skillet which is never washed, merely wiped clean after each use. My husband says his grandmother would never let her breadpans be put in the dishpan because it would make the bread stick. They too, were wiped clean and put away, never to be used for anything except for baking bread.

I have such a motley assortment of pots and pans that I am certain they would prove nothing except that I am a rather disorganized housewife! There are copper-bottom pans which require a bit of polishing now and then, a few stainless steel, and then a peculiar collection of other cooking utensils which boast no kinship either to themselves or the others!

When I was first married I especially enjoyed my shiny new copper-bottom pans. I had a rack up so that they could be prominently displayed. Of course that meant they had to be polished every time they were used, but I was a bride and every part of housekeeping was still very exciting, so I didn't object a bit. However, I did discover one sad truth about copper-bottom pans: They heat up very fast, and unless one watches them very closely there will be burned potatoes for dinner! After seven years of mar-

riage I find my copper pans still outwit me all too frequently.

One pan which gets a great deal of use at my house is the pressure-saucepan. I never get over the wonder that inexpensive meats can be cooked quickly and come out tender and delicious through the magic of the pressure cooker. When time is at a premium, I find the cooker is wonderful for getting almost anything done in a hurry—potatoes, vegetables, beans, applesauce. Here again, the problem is that I must watch the pressure cooker rather closely. If the pressure is not adjusted properly, or if the right amount of water is not used, then there is a danger of blowing the safety valve. (I've had it happen. Though the experience is harmless enough, the noise it makes and the inconvenience of replacing the part makes one want to avoid letting it happen twice!)

When all is said and done, the pan which gets the most use at my house is the smallest and humblest of all. It is not shiny and it certainly is not expensive. In fact, it does not even claim a matching lid. It is rarely used in making company meals and it never makes an appearance at the table like some of the fancier, modern "cook and serve" utensils. Still, it is the pan most seen on the top of my stove. It is the pan that warms the bottles and the baby food. It cooks the soft-boiled eggs every morning and warms up the leftovers. It is easy to clean. Its main virtue is that it is small and unobtrusive enough to keep on the back of the stove most of the time, and it is always ready for any little job I need to use it for. It has no fancy gadgets; it is not beautiful. It is faithful.

"But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and

Dr. Appelman Reports

We have a report from Dr. Hyman Appelman of his meetings for the first four months in 1961, and we are publishing it here.

Please note: We do not feel the reports of "decisions"—which may mean a salvation decision, or decision for church membership or a renewal of one's vows—we do not believe that such a general term is wise. It has grown very popular in recent years, but we believe it much more definite and fruitful to report the number who have found Christ as Saviour where that is known.

But many of these thousands of decisions were no doubt definite conversions, and we give the report here as Dr. Appelman sends it to us, and join in grateful praise to God for the blessings He has put upon this tremendous evangelist. (Editor)

May 10, 1961

Over 4000 persons have made decisions for Christ in the Hyman Appelman Campaigns held in the United States and Mexico during the first four months of 1961.

A meeting held from Dec. 27, 1960, to Jan. 8, 1961, in the York, Pennsylvania, Gospel Center, Dr. Ralph Boyer, chairman, resulted in 582 decisions. The Milwaukee Gospel Tabernacle, Rev. A. C. Valdez, pastor, saw 103 professions and additions in the five days from January 9 to 13.

There were 618 decisions recorded in an area-wide campaign in National City, Calif., Jan. 14-20. Rev. Floyd E. Pittman, pastor of Highland Avenue Baptist Church, writes: "The campaign will pay off for years to come . . . really elevated our church. Thank you, Hyman, for what you did for us. We shall never forget, and our people love you very dearly. They never forget to pray for you."

Mexico City and Pachuca, Mex-

ico, saw revival fires from January 30 to February 26. Of the 1500 decisions in these two cities, more than 1350 were first-time professions of faith in Christ.

From Feb. 27-March 5, Dr. Appelman was with the First Baptist Church of Hallandale, Florida, where there were 184 decisions reported. "Words are completely inadequate as I try to appraise your ministry with us," said Rev. LaVerne Butler, pastor. "Your devotion, dedication and drive for souls will never let me be the same again. Never have I known a man with more love for souls. Thank you for being so fervent in prayer. I honestly believe that the highlight of my whole Christian life was those daily prayer times with you and Ellis. I would God that every pastor had the same privilege. Your messages stirred us as you preached them; but they are still stirring our hearts and will be food for thought for years to come. The mighty impact of your ministry in our church has made the future of our church brighter than it has ever been before. Hundreds of doors into hearts and homes are opened to us out of which I believe we shall see many precious souls saved."

In the Thrifhaven Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, of which Rev. Pete Steelman is pastor, there were 217 decisions the week of March 6-13. Rev. Steelman, who has seen 783 additions to the church in the three years of his pastorate, said: "My words are insufficient to express the deep gratitude of my heart to God for sending you our way. I say this sincerely from my heart: I enjoyed working with you more than with anyone I have ever had in my church. Your life is a challenge to any minister of the Gospel, and an inspiration. Our people learned to love and appreciate you."

Of the 176 decisions in the Baptist Church of Texarkana, March 13-19, meeting in Rose Hill Texas, 165 were conversions and additions to the churches. "What a blessing it was to have you and Ellis Zehr in our church for a second campaign," wrote Rev. James W. Read, pastor. "Indeed we are grateful for the many souls who were saved and those who were received by baptism. We found you to be a man of much prayer and a burning desire that the lost come to know our Saviour in a definite experience of repentance and faith. Your preaching . . . made a profound impression upon our people. Should any of our Southern Baptist pastors care to write to me concerning your work I would welcome the oppor-

tunity to say a word of commendation in behalf of your team." Rev. Marshall DeVaughn wrote the following report in his church bulletin: "The seven great days of the Hyman Appelman San Francisco meetings (March 20-26) finished to overflow crowds in the SkyWay Baptist Church. Scores decided for the Lord and the church. Scores of them are uniting with this and other churches in the Bay Area. Many were stunned by the enormous crowds in our church . . . even when it was raining, we had the crowds. Appelman is a name to conjure by in evangelical circles of America, even of the world."

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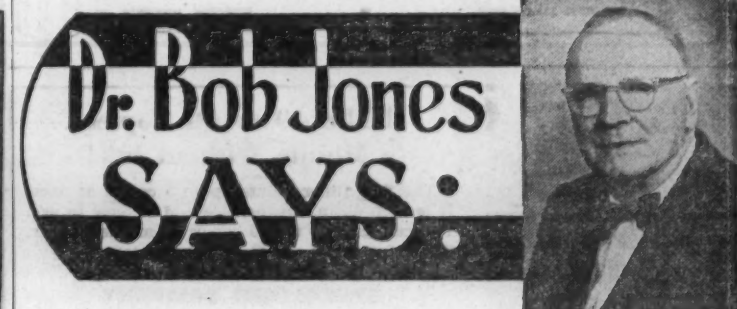
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Sword of the Lord

Box 420

Wheaton, Illinois



I quote from a letter that was written to my son, Bob, Jr., the President of the University, by parents of a young man who was in school here this past school year. These parents write: "For some time we have wanted to write you and try to express our appreciation for Bob Jones University and the deep influence it has had upon our son, a junior, and also upon us, his parents. We thank God for a school that stands in these days for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. It is more than distressing to think of the conditions in our own church and denominational schools where the once Christian standards have been beaten down and where modernism has taken complete control."

My friends, Bob Jones University, by the grace of God, is standing true to the Bible as the Word of God. It is sending out to the

ends of the earth young men and young women who are well trained for Christian leadership. The influence of this institution which the Lord led me to found years ago has spread around the world. We want you Christian people to help us, and you can help us in three ways. First: You can pray earnestly every day for the school. Pray for my son, the President, and for all the faculty who assist him. Second: You can recommend the right kind of young people to the institution so we can keep on training more Christian leaders. Third: You can invest some of the Lord's money in the work He is doing through Bob Jones University. Won't you please let us hear from you? Thank you, and God bless you.

BOB JONES, FOUNDER
BOB JONES UNIVERSITY
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Book of Mormon Error The Indians Not Jews

By the Editor

We have a letter from a Pennsylvania man who has been deceived by the false claims of the Book of Mormon. He says he is not a Mormon, yet he believes the story of that novel which Joseph Smith plagiarized and then claimed was the Word of God. He believes that half of God's revelation is in the Bible and half in the Book of Mormon. He says, "There is not ONE preacher in America preaching the 'full Gospel of Jesus Christ'—simply because he either does not possess it or refuses to believe it."

I do not know; perhaps some Mormons have truly been converted. But they were not converted by the doctrine in the Book of Mormon. And if they take seriously the instructions on the plan of salvation in the Mormon Church they would not be saved.

The fact that Mormons take another authority besides the Bible makes them a false cult. Christian Science is a false cult taking the writings of Mary Baker Eddy as authoritative along with the Bible, or rather instead of the Bible. Roman Catholics are a false cult in that they take the authority of the church and the traditions of the church and the rules of popes and councils as authoritative along with the Bible and actually often instead of the Bible. There is a tremendous curse on anyone who adds to the Word of God, whether it is the writings of Mrs. Mary Ellen White of the Seventh-Day Adventists, or an interpretation of the great pyramid by British Israelites, or the writings of Russell and Rutherford of the Jehovah's Witnesses. Revelation 22:18, 19 says: "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

God closed the canon of Scripture with the book of Revelation. To take from it as modernists and

liberals do, means one loses in the part prepared for him in the Holy City. To add to it means to bring upon one the plagues that are written in the book.

Here is the Editor's Answer
"Dear Mr. D.-----:"

June 12, 1961

I thank you for your letter of May 23 and answer briefly.

I am sorry you have been led astray by the foolishness of the Book of Mormon. I am familiar with it. I have gone into the whole movement very carefully. It is not the Word of God. It is not the other half of the Gospel.

One reason we know this is that the Lord plainly promised a curse on anybody who should add to or take from the words written in the Bible when He closed the canon of Revelation in Revelation 22:18 and 19. For another reason, the Book of Mormon does not have the true plan of salvation. For another reason, it is historically incorrect, as all historians know. And all ethnologists know that the Indians could not have descended from the Jews and are not Jews. They are not like Jews in physical characteristics. They have not a trace of circumcision, the Jewish Sabbath, the sacrifices, or any of the ceremonial laws, not even the Ten Commandments.

In January I was in India and there I found many Jews, dark Jews, who went to India back in the days of the captivity of Israel, long before Christ. They came from Babylon down into India. Until recently they did not have even the Old Testament. But they circumcised their boy babies; they had the Jewish Sabbath; they had Jewish dietary rules which they had kept for some twenty-five centuries. I ate in such a Jewish home; I had some of them converted in my ministry. No, the American Indians are not Jews. Neither the Bible nor history nor ethnology indicates that they are Jews.

But the serious thing is not that you are mistaken on the matter of who the American Indians are, but that you are mistaken about what is the Word of God and what

is the plan of salvation and what is the true Gospel. That is very serious.

I beg you to study the Word of God itself, and when you once get settled what the Bible claims for itself, you will never again, unless you are a deliberate unbeliever, rank any other book with the Bible as the Word of God.

In Jesus' name, yours,
John R. Rice



Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

EVANGELIST CHARLES HIMES, 801 College Avenue, Wheaton, Illinois, held a revival May 7-21 at the Bible Baptist Church of Cottage Hills, Illinois, where Rev. Jim Floyd is pastor. There were 5 saved during the meeting, one of whom was an 85-year-old man and another a 62-year-old man. The last Sunday of the meeting the Sunday School crowd was one of the largest which they had ever had in the small church just over a year old. The pastor recommends Brother Himes for his sound, straight Bible preaching and his earnestness in soul winning and visitation.

EVANGELIST FRANK DUNCAN, P.O. Box 127, Grover, North Carolina, held a revival in the First Baptist Church in Kingsbury, Indiana, recently. Nevin Beeher, pastor, reports 14 first-time decisions for Christ and 35 rededications.

Evangelist Duncan was also in a church in Trenton, Michigan, recently and saw 55 conversions and those joining the church, plus 98 rededications and one young man who surrendered to preach.

At the Oak Hill Community Baptist Church, Germantown, North Carolina, Brother Duncan saw 11 saved, 44 rededications, and 8 additions to the church, in addition to 14 people who promised to start tithing. Rev. Hubert R. Blackburn, pastor, reports that Brother Duncan knows how to deal with the needs of the church and leaves a good revival flavor when the meeting has closed.

At the South Park Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, in Brother Duncan's meeting there were 45 rededications and 15 professions of faith during the week of June 18-25. Rev. Frank Chrisco, pastor, heartily recommends Brother Duncan as a faithful preacher of the Word.

EVANGELIST GLEN H. SCHUNK, 10 Blythwood Drive, Greenville, South Carolina, recently concluded a twelve-day meeting at the Saylorville Baptist Church of Des Moines, Iowa. Rev. William Koltovich, pastor, reports 21 professions of faith, 70 who came for assurance of salvation, rededication and to surrender their lives to God for soul winning. The crowds were excellent and God sent a great spirit of revival among the people.

EVANGELIST J. OSCAR WELL, Box 417, Bethany, Oklahoma, was recently in the Lebanon Springs Baptist Church of Lebanon Springs, New York. Rev. Carlton Balar, pastor, reports many first-time decisions and above 10 rededications.

There were 9 additions by baptism and 5 by letter in the South Lindsay Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, where Rev. R. P. Thompson is pastor. During the meeting held by Brother Oscar Wells, an 83-year-old lady was baptized and a 76-year-old man.

EVANGELIST BOB STOCKTON, 1325 Carrollton Avenue, Indianapolis 2, Indiana, held revivals recently in Wileyville, West Virginia; Bedford, Michigan, and Johnstown, Pennsylvania. During those meetings there was a total of 95 decisions for salvation and scores of rededications. He is now organizing a new work in Greensburg, Indiana.

REV. KENNETH CHAPMAN, pastor of the Alta Loma Baptist Church in Madison, Tennessee, held an evangelistic meeting May 22-31 at the Colosse Baptist Church of Colosse, New York. There were 20 decisions for salvation and about 50 rededications according to William J. Popp, pastor. He reports that the average

The Good Old Saloon Days

Personally I have seen so much of the evils of the liquor traffic in the last four years, so much of its economic waste, so much of its physical ruin, so much of its mental blight, so much of its tears and heartaches, that I have come to regard the business as one that must be held and controlled by strong and effective laws. I bear no malice towards those engaged in the business, but I hate the traffic, I hate its every phase.

I hate it for its arrogance; I hate it for its hypocrisy. I hate it for its cant and craft and false pretense. I hate it for its commercialism. I hate it for its greed and avarice. I hate it for its sordid love of gain at any price. I hate it for its domination in politics. I hate it for its corrupting influence in civic affairs. I hate it for its incessant effort to debauch the suffrage of the country; for the cowards it makes of public men. I hate it for its utter disregard of law. I hate it for its ruthless trampling of solemn compacts of state constitutions.

I hate it for the load it straps to labor's back, for the palsied hands it gives to toil, for its wounds to genius, for the tragedies of its "might-have-beens." I hate it for the human wrecks it has caused. I hate it for the almshouses it peoples, for the prisons it fills, for the insanity it begets, for the countless graves in potter's fields.

I hate it for the mental ruin it imposes upon its victims, for its spiritual blight, for its moral degradation. I hate it for the crimes it has committed. I hate it for the homes it has destroyed. I hate it for the hearts it has broken. I hate it for the malice it has planted in the hearts of men—for its poison, for its bitterness, for the Dead Sea fruit with which it starves their souls.

I hate it for the grief it causes womanhood—the scalding tears, the hopes deferred, the strangled aspirations, its burden of want and care. I hate it for its heartless cruelty to the aged, the infirm, and the helpless, for the shadow it throws upon the lives of children, for the monstrous injustice to blameless little ones.

I hate it as virtue hates vice, as truth hates error, as righteousness hates sin, as justice hates wrong, as liberty hates tyranny, as freedom hates oppression.—Ex-Governor J. Frank Hanley of Indiana (in 1909), in *Religious Telescope*.

attendance on Sunday morning is usually about 125, but for the ten nights Brother Chapman was there, the crowds averaged 140 with the highest night reaching to 225.

EVANGELIST DE VOE WHITELY, Immanuel Baptist Church, Springdale, Arkansas, held a revival recently in the church of which Edwin Springer is pastor in Ottumwa, Iowa. There were 21 saved and many rededications and additions during the revival.

EVANGELIST J. TOWNLEY DAVIS from Hinton, West Virginia, was the evangelist for a meeting at the First Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in Franklin, Indiana, June 19-25. Rev. James A. Lee, pastor, reports 22 responded to the invitation for salvation and a great many Christians made other decisions.

EVANGELIST A. K. PAULEY, 508½ Buckley Street, Chattanooga, Tennessee, held a revival recently in the Sholar Avenue Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee. Rev. Henry Vegter, pastor, reports 14 conversions, two families starting family altars, and several young people made decisions, and 17 who never had won a soul promised to become soul winners.

EVANGELIST JOHN L. FRANCIS, 6530 Bluff Road, Indianapolis, Indiana, held a meeting recently in the Community Baptist Church of Indianapolis. Rev. Charlie T. Kittrell, pastor reports that on the closing night of the meeting 26 were baptized and 33 received into the membership of the church. There were 28 clear-cut decisions for salvation during the meeting.

God Stayed . . .

(Continued from page 1)

thing but your appendix and a lymph node for tests!

He further said, "The disease is of a rare nature, and not the 'regional ileitis' that we suspected, neither appears to be anything of a malignant nature."

Two days later the report came back "definitely not malignant, but disease undetermined." These are the words the doctors brought to my family who had been anxiously waiting for the report. We were advised that a new series of tests would begin as soon as I was able to receive them for further diagnosis.

More than four months have passed since I became ill and more than a dozen doctors and surgeons have studied my case. Every type of medicine known to those doctors, who are among the best in Central America and the U.S.A., had been prescribed, trying to check dysentery and a chronic diarrhea that had drained my strength and left me helpless to carry on my work.

Doctors and surgeons and medical science had stood helplessly by. But God "stood in the gap and made up the hedge." The knife of the surgeon was stayed! For no explainable cause the diarrhea ceased. My strength is returning, my weight is picking up, and I feel myself a complete new man!

The natural man would wonder, and the world would say, "It just happened by luck." But I was there! I know what happened: **God's people prayed.** The entire constituency of the World Baptist Fellowship pastors, many pastors associated with Baptist Bible Fellowship and some with the Southern Baptist Convention led their people to pray.

Mexicans and Central Americans prayed. I believed and trusted God, either to live or to die for His glory. He saved my soul twenty-four years ago, and has been saving my life from the hand of the destroyer every hour since that day. But the greatest manifestation of His physical preservation was delayed for this hour, when no less than six nations on the American continent would hear of His grace to preserve His servants.

I trusted Him during seven years of travel to some of Latin America's most diseased and insect-fested jungles, eating things that only natives eat, and drinking water from jungle rivers where both animals and man bathe and drink, in jungles where "water purification plans" and "modern sanitation" have never been heard of, neither would be understood if the illiterates should hear.

I have been put to the test; I trusted God, and I contacted a rare tropical disease that the best of doctors couldn't control. But God never fails those who wholly trust. I never despaired. I would never at any moment have recalled my days in the midst of filth and disease spent in answer to His call.

I will go again. God hasten the day! To Him be glory, time without end. Amen.

(Reprint from Baptist Echo by permission of Rev. Johnnie Ramsey, Rolling Hills Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Editor)

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and
A WAY

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Prayer

(Continued from page 1)

God gave him a posterity like the sands of the sea. He prayed for Ishmael; God spared the boy's life, and made of him a great nation. He prayed for Sodom; God heard his prayer, and postponed the day of doom.

Jacob prayed for a favorable reception for Esau.

Moses prayed for the forgiveness of the people.

Gideon prayed God to overthrow the Midianites.

Elijah prayed, and God heard and answered by fire.

Joshua prayed, and Achan was discovered.

Hannah prayed, and Samuel was born.

Hezekiah prayed, and 185,000 Assyrians died.

Daniel prayed, and the lions were muzzled.

The apostles prayed, and the Holy Spirit came down.

Not one of these would have happened without prayer.

Luther prayed, and the Reformation was the result.

Knox prayed, and Scotland trembled.

Brainerd prayed, and the Indians were subdued.

Wesley prayed, and millions were moved Godward.

Whitefield prayed, and thousands were converted.

Finney prayed, and mighty revivals resulted.

Taylor prayed, and the great China Inland Mission was born.

Mueller prayed, and more than seven million dollars were sent him to feed thousands of orphans.

Auntie Cook prayed; Moody was anointed, and the Moody Bible Institute was launched.

Men are always praying; God is always answering.

God has to make some of us wait on the sidetrack while His through trains rush by.

A plain seaman stood on watch on a U. S. battleship hundreds of miles out to sea on the Atlantic.

A wireless message was handed to him, reading, "Little Donald died yesterday. Funeral Wednesday. Can you come?" It was signed "Mary." He forgot his duty, and saw only the smiling face of his baby which he had left three months before. He burst into tears. The captain asked, "What's the matter?" He handed the officer the message.

"Where do you live?" asked the captain.

"Cleveland, Ohio, Sir," replied the seaman.

The captain barked some orders to the engine room, and then sent out a wireless message. It wasn't long before a cruiser was sighted; the sailor was put upon her, and she raced toward New York.

Another wireless, and a fast torpedo boat came over the horizon. He was lowered on to her. She made all speed to New York harbor, where the sailor was put in a cab, and driven hurriedly to the Pennsylvania depot. He rushed up to the ticket office to inquire when the next train left for Cleveland. The agent told him it would leave in three minutes. He tore down the stairs, and climbed aboard just as the train was pulling out of the station. He reached his home and Mary's arms, just as the minister arose to deliver his sermon.

All the power of the United States Navy was placed at his disposal.

God Answers Prayer Through Human Co-operation

We need more prayer sense. It takes considerable planning before we get ready to pray, "O Lord, I want a house." Then say "Amen" with a hammer and saw. Or, "O Lord, I want to be a strong

Christian." Then say "Amen" on your knees, with a membership in a church; otherwise your prayers will not create much commotion in Heaven.

We pray, "O Lord, save the world." That's an easy and cheap way. If we are in earnest we'll say "Amen" with our hands, our hearts, and our money, and really get down on our knees and actually down to business.

Bishop Whipple was the Episcopal bishop of Minnesota. He tells of an Episcopal clergyman who was called to comfort a dying girl. The house in which she lay was kept by an incarnate fiend, who was offended that the clergyman should come to the home to pray.

The woman met him with a butcher knife in her hand, and told him he could not pray in her house. The clergyman had a cane. He said, "Madame, I came down here to commend this dying girl to Jesus. I want you to know that I can pray just as well with my eyes open as shut. If you stir one step while I pray, I will break your head with this stick."

The woman never budged. I like a fellow like that, don't you?

Too many Christians are slovenly in prayer. They are careless and thoughtless; they almost yawn in God's presence; they do not concentrate their thoughts.

"How" is one of the biggest words in our language. We are all curious. We are not satisfied to see a thing done, but we ask, "How?" That's why a child likes to take a watch apart.

Too many of us, when we take our problems to the Lord, drop our prayers before His throne and seem to say: "I wash my hands; now it's up to You."

We must live and act in such a way that God can answer our prayers. If a man prays for health, he must use every means to keep himself well. Some think and teach that God has a mysterious wand to wave over the sick while the patient refuses to cooperate.

Moody was asked to pray for the recovery of a sick preacher. "No, I won't," Moody said. "He does ten days' work in five, and eats everything in sight."

If a man prays for the ability to win souls, he will naturally do personal work.

If a man prays for a job, he will read the want ads.

If he prays for a wife, he will go out and meet women socially, and not wait for some woman to come and say, "Good morning, I'm your wife; the Lord sent me to you."

Some try to make prayer a substitute for work. Real prayer is teamwork with the Lord. It's God at the front end, leading us on. He wants us to be at the back end, following.

Get rid of the idea that prayer is a one-power affair where God is the conductor and motorman.

A man was out in a boat with a dinky. A storm arose. The man became frightened and said: "Mose, shall we pray or row?" The dinky replied, "Boss, let's mix 'em; pray and row."

Dr. Norman McLeod, with a brother minister, was caught in a storm. Dr. McLeod was a big burly fellow; his friend was small. The latter said, "Dr. McLeod, let's pray." The Highland boatman said, "Na, na, Mon! Let the wee man pray, and the big mon take an oar."

In all human history certain crises have arisen when the help of man was vain. Dr. Jessup and Dr. Bliss of Syria sat together in Constantinople, in tears over the edict of the Sultan, ordering all American schools closed. Finally Dr. Bliss said, "Let's lay this before the Sultan of Heaven." They prayed all night. The next day the Sultan died. The edict was recalled.

Moody said that Jesus never taught His disciples how to preach, but how to pray. Not how to run a church, or how to raise money, but how to pray.

Beecher said, "I pray on the principle that wine knocks the cork out of the bottle. Where there is inward fermentation there must be a vent."

We Do Not Put Enough Trust in Prayer

Henry Drummond tells of a little girl who was crossing the ocean. She dropped her doll overboard, and running to the captain,

asked him to stop the ship and pick up her dolly. She had seen him do that to rescue a man, and she thought he was cruel when he refused.

When the ship reached port, the captain bought her the finest doll he could find. He had refused her request, but he gave her something much better.

A little girl went to a hospital for an operation. The doctor said, "I must put you to sleep, and when you wake up you'll be better."

She replied, "Oh, before I go to sleep, I always pray." She jumped down and prayed, "Now I lay me down to sleep." The doctors and nurses bowed their heads and waited, and I believe that doctor received divine help in that special case.

During the first World's Fair in Chicago, in 1893, Mr. Moody carried on numberless evangelistic meetings; secured many speakers from abroad; rented halls, and engaged theatres. It took a great deal of money to carry on such extensive work.

One day Mr. Moody invited a dozen men to luncheon at a downtown hotel. He said to them, "I didn't invite you here merely to eat. I invited you because I believe you have power in prayer. I need seven thousand dollars. I must have it to keep this work going."

Before luncheon was served, they all definitely prayed for seven thousand dollars. Before lunch was finished, Moody was handed a telegram which read as follows:

"We, your friends at Northfield, became impressed that you must have money to carry on your work in Chicago. We have taken an offering amounting to seven thousand dollars. I am mailing you a draft today for that amount, praying God's richest blessings upon you and His cause."

The prayers reached God, and He sent the answer via Northfield.

Charles M. Alexander went into a bank in England to see one of the officers. While waiting, he picked up a blotter and wrote on it, "Pray through." The officer was detained, and Mr. Alexander kept on writing until he had covered the blotter with the words, "Pray through." After he left the room, a business man was ushered into the room to wait. He was discouraged and troubled. Picking up the blotter, he read it over and over again, and suddenly ex-

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claimed, "Why, that's just the message I need. I've tried to worry it through; now I'll pray it through."

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Don't stop praying, He'll hear your cry;

God has promised, He is true!

Don't stop praying, He'll answer you.

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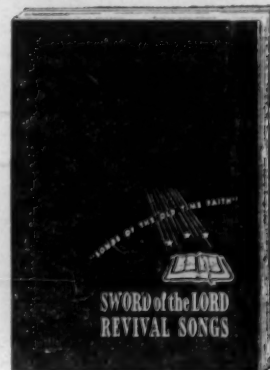
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Searching the Scriptures for the Saviour

by Elizabeth Rice Handford

Nehemiah 13

Nehemiah Plans an Unpleasant Surprise

Imagine how shocked and surprised these people must have been when Nehemiah came storming back from Babylon, and started making sweeping changes. He wasn't very gentle, for he says he "contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair"! He really meant business about getting God's people to separate themselves from wickedness, and in cleansing the temple.

Eliashib was the high priest. Yet he had allied himself with Tobiah (vs. 4) that wicked enemy of God's people. Eliashib's son's daughter had married Sanballet's son (vs. 28). Of all men, the high priest, the spiritual leader, should have opposed these enemies of God and the Israelites. Read chapters 4 and 6 of Nehemiah to see how violently they had hindered the work of God. Yet Eliashib had actually moved holy things out of the house of God so that Tobiah could move in! No wonder Nehemiah was indignant.

Does this remind you of the time when Jesus came into the temple, and looked in anger on those who made His Father's house a house of merchandise? The gentle, mild Lord Jesus made a scourge of small cords, chased them all out of the temple, poured all their money on the floor, kicked over the tables, and told them not to come back! (John 2:13-17).

In his zeal for the house of God, Nehemiah reminds us of Christ—reminds us not of the lowly Jesus who was born in a stable, lived without a place to lay His head, and died as a lamb brought to the slaughter. In Nehemiah we see Jesus, the Ancient of Days, out of whose mouth will come a sharp sword, whose countenance is like the sun, and who holds the keys of death and hell (Rev. 1:13-18).

Clues Across

- 2 "I ----- the Levites that they should cleanse themselves"
- 10 "----- me according to the greatness of thy mercy"
- 12 "It was planted in a good ----- by great waters" Ezek. 17
- 13 city of Moab (Num. 21:28)
- 14 "they ----- in the dry places like a river" Ps. 105
- 15 "straightway ye shall find an ----- tied" Matt. 21
- 17 "let them give us ----- to eat" Dan. 1
- 19 "----- I came to Jerusalem"
- 20 "----- read in the book of Moses"
- 22 "Then shall the lame man ----- as an hart" Isa. 35
- 23 "What evil thing is this that ----- do?"
- 25 New Testament name for Hosea (Rom. 9:25) (See Hosea 2:23)
- 27 an evergreen tree
- 29 Simeon's other name (Acts 13:1)
- 31 "Thus ----- I them from all strangers"
- 34 "there should no burden be brought in on ----- sabbath" initials of father and his son who died before he did (Gen. 11:28)
- 37 "----- also wine, grapes, and figs"
- 40 yes (Spanish)
- 42 mountain where Moses died (Deut. 34:1)
- 44 "Then I commanded, and they cleansed the -----"
- 47 "my God shall supply all your -----" Phil. 4
- 48 "the -----, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman" Gen. 2:22
- 49 "the Moabite should not come ----- the congregation of God for ever"

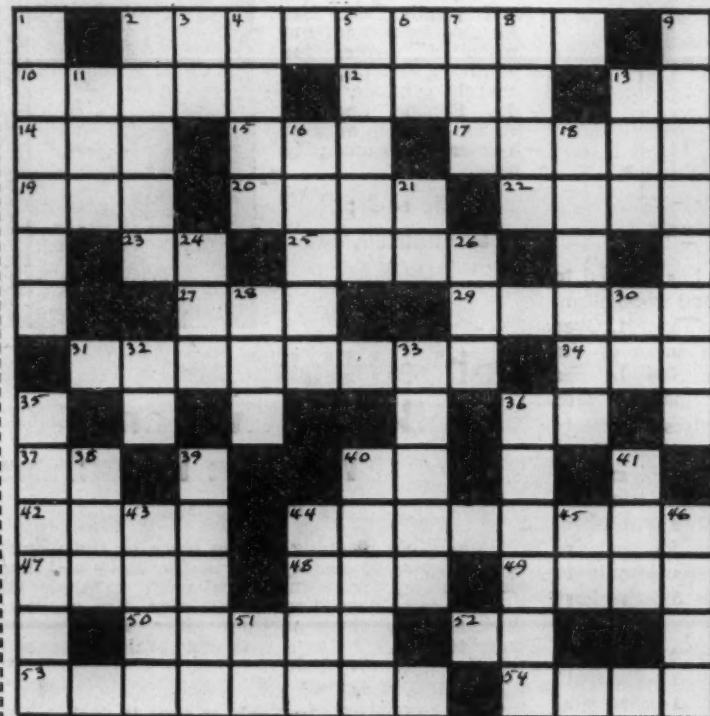
- 50 "thither brought I ----- the vessels"
- 52 exclamation of anticipation (Job 39:25)
- 53 "----- me, O my God, for good"
- 54 "because they ----- defiled the priesthood"

Clues Down

- 1 "they met not the children of ----- with bread"
- 2 a sweet confection
- 3 "nor take their daughters unto your sons, ----- for yourselves"
- 4 "where aforetime they laid the ----- offerings"
- 5 "bringing in sheaves, and lading -----"
- 6 "From that time forth came they ----- more on the sabbath"
- 7 "that he may ----- the tip of his finger in water, for I am tormented" Luke 16
- 8 month the wall was finished (Neh. 6:15)
- 9 "he had ----- for him a great chamber"
- 11 "and he struck it into the -----, or kettle" I Sam. 2
- 13 king who dug a pit for fear of Baasha (Jer. 41:9)
- 16 revealed (----- w-)
- 18 "what is the breadth, and -----, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ" Eph. 3
- 21 "yet ----- bring more wrath upon Israel"
- 24 "I will guide thee with mine -----" Ps. 32
- 26 "the ----- of that man is peace" Ps. 37
- 28 "he hath inclined his ----- unto me" Ps. 116
- 30 initials of father and mother of Samuel (I Sam. 1:19, 20)

Deadline: July 31, 1961

Puzzle No. 29



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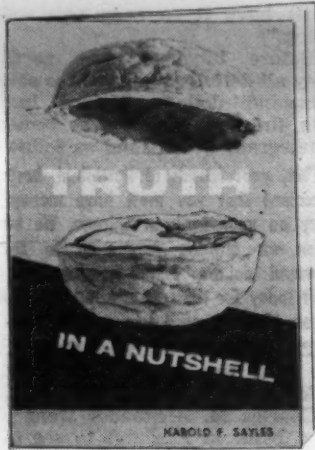
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(Cut along dotted lines)

- 32 "-----, this is our God; we have waited for him" Isa. 25
- 33 oldest brother of David, who was angry at David's question (I Sam. 17:28)
- 35 "all ----- of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem"
- 36 wicked man with whom Eliashib allied himself
- 38 "And didst ----- the affliction of our fathers in Egypt" Neh. 9
- 39 "Why ----- ye about the wall?"
- 40 "they that be wise shall ----- as the brightness of the firmament" Dan. 12
- 41 "we believe and are sure that thou ----- that Christ, the Son of the living God" John 6
- 43 "first cast out the ----- out of thine own eye" Matt. 7
- 44 "Where no oxen are, the ----- is clean" Prov. 14
- 45 printer's measure
- 46 "it grieved me -----"
- 51 "Where I -----, there ye may be also" John 14

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prompt answers to
Puzzle Number 29



by Harold F. Sayles

This twenty-four page booklet is literally loaded with important Bible truths and an abundance of scriptural statements to convincingly prove their worth. Truths emphasized and explained herein are: (1) You have sinned; (2) God loves you; (3) You can be saved; (4) Christ redeemed you; (5) How you are not saved; (6) How you are saved; (7) When to be saved; (8) How to keep saved; (9) Proof you are saved; (10) How to enjoy being saved; (11) What the saved have; (12) What the unsaved have; (13) How the saved should live; and, (14) How the saved should work.

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4. Each person having a correct entry will receive a coupon along with the weekly prize. Save these coupons! End of the year prizes are: World Bible with concordance, or Rainbow edition of the Bible for young readers (King James Version) for 48 coupons; a compact and easy to handle World Bible (King James Version) for 40 coupons; Illustrated Bible Geography and Atlas for 25 coupons.
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Pray Any Time

Come at the morning hour;
Come, let us kneel and pray;
Prayer is the Christian pilgrim's staff
To walk with God all day.

At noon, beneath the Rock
Of Ages, rest and pray;
Sweet is the shelter from the sun
In weary heat of day.

At evening, in thy home,
Around its altars, pray;
And finding there the house of God,
With Heaven then close the day.

When midnight veils our eyes,
Oh, it is sweet to say,
"I sleep, but my heart waketh, Lord,
With Thee to watch and pray."

—JAMES MONTGOMERY

How to Win . . .

(Continued from page 1)

that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"—John 3:16.

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance"—II Peter 3:9.

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God"—II Cor. 1:18.

3. They are under the condemnation of a Holy God!

"He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God"—John 3:18.

"And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, [God] condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly"—II Peter 2:6.

Lost loved ones are condemned to eternal separation from God; condemned to judgment, to suffering, to torment. Condemned! as an offender, a criminal, a malefactor.

4. They are under God's wrath

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him"—John 3:36.

The "wrath of God" is beyond human comprehension. Its intensity, its awfulness, its terror is past finding out. Whereas the saved are "delivered from the wrath to come" (I Thess. 1:10), it abideth on the unsaved.

This "wrath of God" is spoken of by Paul in Romans 1:18: "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness."

5. They are spiritually blind

"But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them"—II Cor. 4:3, 4.

Paul speaks of "the blindness of their heart" in Ephesians 4:18. Jesus said, "Let them alone; they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch" (Matt. 15:14).

The reason many of our loved ones are lost is that they are al-

ready religious, already members of modernistic churches. They are not only blind themselves but they sit under the ministry of unconverted preachers who are blind also. This makes for a difficult and tragic situation, but we will not give in to it! We must win them out of religion into salvation.

6. They are under a curse

"For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them"—Gal. 3:10.

Think of it! Under a curse, a divine curse! A curse which is just and deserved, a curse which nailed Jesus to the cross.

7. They are spiritually dead!

"And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins"—Eph. 2:1.

"And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses"—Col. 2:13.

Lost people are spiritually dead to God, to Heaven, to spiritual truth, to gospel light. Only God can give eternal life to the spiritually dead.

8. They are impotent and helpless

Lost people need help, love, sympathy and prayers. They need someone to guide them out of darkness into life.

"For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly"—Rom. 5:6.

The poor cripple at the pool of Bethesda expressed his helplessness when he cried, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool" (John 5:7). The Ethiopian eunuch expressed his impotency when he cried, "How can I, except some man should guide me?" (Acts 8:31).

9. They are without Christ, without hope and without God!

"That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world"—Eph. 2:12.

10. They are God's enemies.

"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life"—Rom. 5:10.

In spite of this dangerous condition our lost loved ones are in, many wait too late to do anything about it. The rich man of Luke 16 who died in sin and went to Hell himself was afterward greatly concerned about his five brethren, but too late! Judas was sorry about his foul deed of betraying the Saviour but the damage was done and he was too late to save even his own soul.

"Too Late" is the cry of those
(Continued on page 7)

Answer to Puzzle No. 26

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who lose their health by negligence. "Too Late" is the cry of those whose families go wrong. "Too Late" is the cry of the drunkard who bought one bottle too many. "Too Late" is the cry of many Christians who wait too long to get desperately burdened about their loved ones.

Many Christians are hesitant and timid about revival, separation, prayer, giving, witnessing, church attendance, tears and intercession. They wait until sickness and death or sudden tragedy bears a loved one out into eternity without being saved. O Christian, today, yes even now, covenant with God that no price will be too great to get your loved ones saved.

"How can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?"

II. Our Concern

Thank God, there have been Christians who had concern and burden about unsaved loved ones and friends. Paul was concerned.

"For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh"—Rom. 9:3.

There is a depth of agony and travail of soul in this verse which is beyond human comprehension. This verse seems to teach that Paul was willing to be cut off from Christ and be lost and go to Hell himself if it could mean the certain salvation of his lost loved ones and countrymen. In the verse preceding this one, Paul said he had "great heaviness and continual sorrow." This is what a Christian means when he speaks of a "burden" for souls. How different is this heart-attitude, on the part of Paul, from the shallow,

calloused indifference of many Christians.

How little there is today of "great heaviness" of heart and soul in the matter of soul winning. The average professing Christian today will hardly attend with regularity a revival, to say nothing of weeping and praying and agonizing with God concerning the matter of his lost loved ones. We have produced a generation of indifferent Christians. They almost seem to be opposed to emotion, to tears, to agony of soul, to extended seasons of prayer. May God stir our hearts even yet before it is too late.

Moses was concerned! He besought God for the souls of the Israelites. He stuck his neck out; he went out on a limb! He cast himself in the gap between a holy God and an offending people. He knew the meaning of self-abandonment and sacrifice. He lost sight of himself and his own comfort and security. It would be well to read again and again the thirty-second chapter of Exodus. The people had sinned grievously and the holy nature of God had been insulted. God said, "Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them" (Exod. 32:10).

The response of Moses to all of this is probably the classic example of all time which involves human travail for souls. Hear him as he prays, "Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written" (Exod. 32:32). As far as I know, this is the only unfinished sentence in the Bible; "Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—; . . ." He literally broke down with emotion and tears and travail of soul.

O God, give us today, once again, such a burden for the lost. We need to be broken up within; we need a softness, a tenderness, a compassion. The absence of this attitude of heart and soul explains the barren altars and cold, dead churches of America today.

Jeremiah was concerned over the souls of men. In Lamentations he weeps; in the Book of Jeremiah he warns. This is the need of the hour—"weeping" and "warning." Hear him cry in Lamentations 1:12, "Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow . . ." Listen to him weep and sob from a broken heart in Jeremiah 9:1: "Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!" Jeremiah's concern led to weeping and traveling.

The psalmist knew something of soul travail and tears in the interest of others. In Psalm 126:6 we read, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Many today would like to "reap in joy," but there must first be a "sowing in tears."

Jesus was concerned over the souls of men. He was a "man of sorrows and acquainted with grief" (Isa. 53:3). What caused this sorrow and grief, both of which were His constant companions? He wept over a lost world. One of the most moving verses in all the Bible is Luke 19:41: "He beheld the city and wept over it." If we had at least one preacher, one Christian, one soul winner to weep over every city in America, what a difference it would make! Jesus also wept in the Garden of Gethsemane as He traveled over the souls of a lost world. "And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly; and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground" (Luke 22:44). Every soul winner ought to read of Jesus in the garden over and over again until he begins to feel the same spirit of soul agony.

O God, wilt thou not give us once again Christians who can "agonize," "weep," "pray more earnestly"? Evidently the passage in Hebrews 5:7 refers to the prayers of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, "who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from

death, and was heard in that he feared." If we are to be like Jesus, then we must know what it means to weep and agonize over the souls of men.

One of the greatest examples of burden and tears for a lost loved one that I have ever seen was that of a young seminary student some time ago. I was conducting a revival in the church where he was a member. He had asked me to pray that he might be able to win his father to Christ during the series of meetings. The week had gone by and a few souls had been saved but not this young man's father.

The closing Sunday came. I was to preach three times, at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. His lost father came to the ten o'clock service. During the invitation the young man turned to his dad and I could see the father shaking his head and refusing the Saviour. I watched the young seminary student with his Bible under his arm and great tears streaming down his face. I saw him put his arms around his father and plead with him but to no avail. After a few moments I saw the young man fall down to the floor and put his arms about his father's body and weep over his soul. In a moment the father came to accept Christ and was gloriously saved.

God used this young man's concern to bring about one of the greatest revival services I have ever been in. It was not a real large church. There were about 400 people in the audience and strong men and women began to weep audibly all over the congregation. Great conviction came upon the lost, and sixty-one people came to Christ in one service! There was no sermon at the eleven o'clock service because people were still coming to be saved until one o'clock in the afternoon. I have often wondered how that service would have turned out if that young man had not wept over his lost father.

"How can I endure to see the destruction of my kindred?"

III. The Commitment We Must Make

Souls are not won by accident. We do not discount the wonderful work of the Holy Spirit, neither are we unmindful of God's wonderful but sometimes unexpected, providential leadings but there must be planning and organizing if many are to be won.

1. There must be determined action

We cannot expect people to be saved if we do nothing about it. If the farmer sows no seed, he reaps no crops. If the fisherman does not cast his net into the sea, he catches no fish. Lost loved ones will die in their sin and go to an eternal Hell unless there be a determination on our part that we will go all out, to any extreme, to win them to Christ before it is too late.

Paul has expressed this holy determination in I Corinthians 9:22, "I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some." Notice the three "alls" in this verse—"all things," "all men," "all means." Here was a Christian who loved to stick his neck out! He was not afraid of being embarrassed. He did not play it safe! He threw himself into action with reckless abandonment. He dared to go to the extreme if necessary.

I greatly admire the action of the woman of Canaan, spoken of in Matthew 15:21-28. She was a Gentile spoken of as "dogs" in verse 26. She had no claim on Jesus and no right to ask for His mercy upon her demon-afflicted daughter. In verse 23 we read that Jesus "answered her not a word." She could not be turned away, however. She reasoned with Jesus, she implored Him, she put Him to the test, she would not give up. Finally Jesus said unto her, "O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt" (vs. 28). She got what she went after. She would not take no for an answer. She refused to be denied the blessing of her daughter's recovery. I think God delights to do business with people of such determined action.

2. There must be intercession

God answers prayer and prayer is vital if souls are to be saved. Paul said in Romans 10:1, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved." There must be "prayer to God" if we are to win our loved ones. It may mean sleepless nights; it may call for fasting and prayer. No price is too great when the souls of your loved ones are at stake.

The darkest hour the heart of a Christian shall ever know will be that tragic hour when you bury one of your lost loved ones. Every sad note of the funeral song will cry, "Lost! Lost! Lost!" Every clod of earth falling upon

the casket top will cry, "Lost! Lost! Lost!" "The night cometh when no man can work" (John 9:4). Whatever you are going to do, do it now!

3. There must also be co-operation if our loved ones are to be won

There must be co-operation in prayer because Jesus said "that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 18:19).

Esther and Mordecai worked together to save their people. Preachers must work together, parents, Sunday School teachers and all Christians must join an all-out effort to win lost loved ones.

"How can I endure to see the destruction of my people?"

I have often said that one of my favorite passages in the Bible is that one in Mark 2:1-5. Here is the dramatic record of the palsied man "borne of four" (vs. 3). Four men worked together to get one man to Jesus. One man probably would never have gotten the job done. These four men were gripped with the conviction that if they could get their friend to Jesus everything would be all right. They could not easily get through the crowd. It was not possible to carry him through the crowded door. They never panicked, thank God! They didn't submit to failure and they would not give in to difficult circumstances. They defied tradition and ignored human opinion. They broke open a hole in the roof and let him down into the presence of the powerful and gracious Son of God.

My soul thrills, my heart leaps for joy when I read of the response of Jesus: "When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee" (vs. 5). Notice that it was "their faith," not his faith. God honored their efforts. They got the undivided attention of Jesus. I wish I could have seen five men leave that house in Capernaum rejoicing.

You can win your loved ones; in fact, this is your first and greatest responsibility. Notice what Jesus said to the maniac of Gadara who got saved: "Return to thine house and show how great things God hath done unto thee" (Luke 8:39).

"How can I endure to see the destruction of my people?"

THE END

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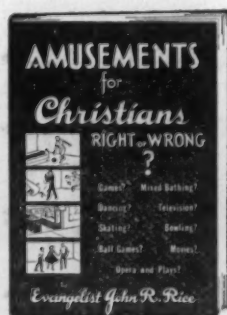
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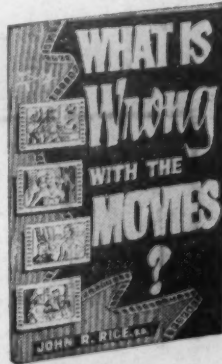
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